

# 2005 Award Winner



10<sup>th</sup> Annual Awards

*Best 30-39 ppm Office Color MFP*

# Konica Minolta

## bizhub C450



**BERTL has awarded the 2005 BERTL's Best Award in the category of Best 30-39 ppm Office Color MFP to the Konica Minolta bizhub C450 for its rich feature set, extensive network management capabilities, powerful multi-tasking capabilities and general ease of use.**

The Konica Minolta bizhub C450 strides into a market still feeling the effects of Konica Minolta's last general office color offering, the C350, which rightly won BERTL's coveted general office color solution in 2004.

The Konica Minolta bizhub C450 has a lot to live up to if it is to exceed the high expectations placed upon it by the bizhub C350. With new improved imag-

ing technology, even faster color output, a new fax option and an integrated motherboard that handles all the functions under one roof— delivering greater multi-tasking capabilities and allowing Konica Minolta to offer even more aggressive upgrade pricing— Konica Minolta has risen to the challenge.

Out of the box, the Konica Minolta bizhub C450 is a color-capable printer/copier/scanner offering print and copy speeds advertised at up to 45ppm monochrome/ 35ppm color. Resolution is 600 x 600dpi, which can be interpolated up to 600 x 1,800dpi.

A number of products which are marketed as multifunctional devices actually start out as copiers, with print and scan capability available as optional upgrades that cost additional money.

In contrast, the Konica Minolta bizhub 450 comes standard with a 600MHz print controller which shares the 512MB system RAM and 40GB hard drive. Unlike the C350, which came with only PCL printing, the new C450 comes with both PCL and importantly PostScript printing capability out of the box, allowing Macintosh users and those preferring the higher image quality capabilities offered by PostScript to get the best out of the device. Standard network scanning

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functionality— which allows users to get greater use of the 100-sheet reversing document feeder— includes Scan-to-Email, Scan-to-SMB (Scan-to-Desktop), Scan-to-FTP, Scan-to-Hard Drive (Scan-to-User Box).

For users looking for even greater functionality Konica Minolta offers a fax upgrade kit, a feature missing from its C350. In addition to the standard selection of departmental fax functions users also benefit from the PC-fax function and internet fax function, made possible through to the device's standard network print and scanning feature set.

For users looking for a more robust, graphic printing solution the C450 can, like its sister C350 product be upgraded to a more powerful and feature rich IC-402 embedded Fiery controller.

Equipped with the Fiery controller, users now have access to a host of Fiery professional printing tools including the sophisticated Fiery ColorWise color management utility and its award-winning Command WorkStation print queue management system, plus the optional EFI Impose advanced publishing and imposition utility. The Fiery backbone also provides greater integration into enterprise workflow printing solutions such as EFI's Balance suite, which allows for intelligent job routing, load balancing, clustering multiple device and much more.

With document and information security playing such a prominent role in the MFP marketplace it is not surprising that the C450 comes with a selection of security features, designed to

control access to, and maintain security for documents created on, stored on, and distributed using the device. Security features include hard disk drive password protection and random erase formatting; SSL (Secure Sockets Layer) encryption for LDAP servers and PageScope Web Connection; and a security penalty function that locks the machine from unauthorized users.

The Konica Minolta bizhub C450 comes with a selection of document finishing options via a choice of two finisher add-ons. The lower priced staple finisher offers sort, group and corner staple capabilities as well as standard hole punch; while the more robust booklet finisher adds double staples, saddle-stitch booklet production and can be further upgraded to include hole punch capability.

Catering to the IT/MIS administrator, the Konica Minolta bizhub C450 can be managed remotely using a plethora of network utilities within the manufacturer's PageScope suite.

The suite includes PageScope Net Care, which provides network administrators with detailed information about the operating conditions of all output devices, both Konica Minolta and third party, on the network, from any web browser.



The Konica Minolta bizhub C450 control panel

Also included in the software suite is PageScope Web Connection, which allows users to instantly check device conditions on all networked Konica Minolta devices on the network from a desktop PC; PageScope Network Setup, which sets up the print controller from the desktop;

PageScope EMS Plug-Ins and PageScope NDPS Gateway, which allows seamless connections to Enterprise or Novell Distributed Print Services.

While there are a lot of color-capable MFPs on the market right now, the Konica Minolta bizhub C450 offers an enviable range of features and benefits encompassing a wide range of front office environments and workflow demands that sets it apart from its rivals.

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## Spotlight On Konica Minolta

Konica Minolta was formed with the merger of two leading imaging companies, Konica and Minolta, in 2003. Both companies brought impressive credentials to the merger.

Konica introduced its first roll of black and white film in 1929. The company entered the business machines market in 1971 with the introduction of the U-BIX 480, Japan's first photostatic plain-paper copier. Konica went on to develop and market a full range of digital printers, copiers, fax, and multifunctional products, as well as application software solutions designed to

meet the demands of a busy office environment.

Konica's ECOJET system, which utilizes dry tablet from chemicals for photoprocessing, was introduced in 1994 and put into wide distribution the following year.

Kazuo Tashima established Minolta as a camera manufacturer in November 1928. The company joined the business equipment industry in 1960 with the development of its first photocopier.

Minolta launched the first color copier able to produce two color copies in a single process in 1987. The machine

was called the EP490Z. In 2000, Minolta announced a research and development partnership with Konica to work jointly on numerous different product development fronts. The following year, Minolta established a venture with Fujitsu Ltd., intended to help the development of color laser printers.

Konica and former rival Minolta merged in a partnership spanning research and development as well as manufacturing and marketing. Prior to merging, the two companies had also formed a joint venture with the goal of creating a new, state-of-the-art toner manufacturing plant.

## BERTL's Best

### Recognizing the Best in Digital Imaging Technology and Innovation

For the 10th consecutive year, BERTL, Inc. presents BERTL's Best: the best devices and software in the digital imaging marketplace.

BERTL's Best award winners are selected after rigorous analysis of the hundreds of digital imaging devices, software, and management utilities in the world-wide marketplace.

BERTL's analysts review current product lines and new product introductions to identify the select group of devices and software that stand apart from the others.

BERTL's Best covers the entire digital imaging and document management arena:

- Executive Office MFPs
- General Office Monochrome MFPs
- Back Office Production Devices
- Wide Format Devices
- Digital Duplicators
- General Office Color MFPs
- Back Office Production Color Devices
- Document Scanners
- Software and Utilities

Plus, BERTL's Best recognizes products for cost-efficiency and innovation.

While print or copy speeds are important, it is the feature set, functionality, performance, and overall business process value that are the key considerations in judging which product is "BERTL's Best." The important question: "How well does this product work in a real-world business setting?"

BERTL combines its wide-ranging knowledge of the competitive landscape and contact with buyers about their product and supplier experiences to identify worthy products. BERTL analyzes network management utilities, concurrency and contention, print and copy productivity, image quality, return on investment, competitive advantage, accessibility, design and build quality, standard functions, modularity of design and upgrade path, installation, and more.

BERTL is 100 percent independent. It receives no funding from the industry and all product evaluations and reports are published at BERTL's own expense for its subscribers.

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